

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 03092 150456Z

14

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 DRC-01 /046 W

----- 009908

R 141233Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 334

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 3092

EO 11652/ N/A

TAGS: ETRN, CE

SUBJ: CIVAIR: MILD TWA INQUIRY INTO POSSIBILITY OF RESUMPTION
SERVICE TO COLOMBO

1. JULES GINDRAUX, NEW TWA GENERAL MANAGER FOR SOUTH ASIA, RESIDENT BOMBAY, VISITED SRI LANKA LAST WEEK TO LOOK OVER SITUATION AND ASSESS DESIRABILITY OF RESUMPTION TWA SERVICE TO COLOMBO. HE SAW PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF AIR CEYLON, MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TOURISM, AND OTHER GSL OFFICIALS, AND CEYLONese BUSINESSMEN.

2. TO ALL HE MADE CLEAR THAT TWA HEADQUARTERS HAD "NO SPECIFIC INTEREST" IN RESUMING SERVICE HERE. TWA DID, HOWEVER, AGREE WITH HIM THAT IT WAS TIME FOR REEVALUATION OF SITUATION HE WOULD SEND DATA BACK TO NEW YORK, AND DECISION WOULD BE MADE STRICTLY ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS. IF RPT IF DECISION WERE AFFIRMATIVE, THEN NEGOTIATION OF BILATERAL AIR AGREEMENT WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN.

3. GINDRAUX TOLD US THAT ALL RPT ALL CEYLONese INTERLOCUTORS, INCLUDING AIR CEYLON PRESIDENT SAM SILVA, WANTED TWA TO COME BACK AND ALL WERE PLEASED TWA WAS SHOWING EVEN PRESENT LIMITED DEGREE OF INTEREST IN LOOKING INTO POSSIBILITY. CEYLONese SAID THERE WOULD BE NO RESTRICTIONS ON TWA'S HANDLING TRAFFIC TO AND FROM BOMBAY AND BANGKOK (WHICH GINDRAUX INDICATED HAD BEEN FACTOR LEADING TO TWA SUSPENSION SERVICE IN 1971).

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BILATERAL CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT WOULD, HOWEVER, BE REQUIRED AND WOULD

HAVE TO INCLUDE RECIPROCAL RIGHT OF AIR CEYLON TO FLY TO UNITED STATES.

4. IN RESPONSE GINDRAUX'S PROBING, SILVA SAID AIR CEYLON HAD NO PLANS FOR FLIGHTS TO UNITED STATES IN NEAR FUTURE BUT VAGUELY INDICATED IT MIGHT EVENTUALLY WISH TO INSTITUTE SUCH SERVICE. GINDRAUX GAINED IMPRESSION FROM FURTHER INQUIRY THAT SILVA HAD IN MIND A SINGAPORE-COLOMBO-EAST AFRICA-MID-ATLANTIC ROUTE TO UNITED STATE.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 14 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Remarks:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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